

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended)

An isolated polynucleotide containing a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a polynucleotide having at least 50% similarity with a polynucleotide coding for a polypeptide having the function of transcription factor and having ~~and~~ an amino acid sequence of sequence SEQ ID No: 3,
- b) a complementary polynucleotide of polynucleotide a) and
- c) a polynucleotide comprising at least 15 consecutive bases of the polynucleotide defined in a) or b).

Claim 2 (previously amended)

A polynucleotide according to claim 1 in that this polynucleotide is a DNA.

Claim 3 (previously amended)

A polynucleotide according to claim 1 in that this polynucleotide is a RNA.

Claim 4 (previously amended)

A polynucleotide as defined in claim 2 comprising the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No: 1.

Claim 5 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence as defined in claim 1 wherein this DNA sequence is that of the CAtfIIIA gene coding for a protein having the biological function of transcription factor of Candida albicans CATIIIA containing the nucleotide sequence SEQ ID No: 1.

Claim 6 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence according to claim 5 having the sequence starting at nucleotide 720 and finishing at nucleotide 1955 of SEQ ID No: 1.

Claim 7 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence of the CAtfIIIA gene according to claim 5 coding for the amino acid sequence SEQ ID No: 3 (413 amino acids).

Claim 8 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence coding for the transcription factor CATFIIIA according to claim 5 and DNA sequences which hybridize with the sequence and/or have a significant homology with this sequence or fragments of it and having the same function.

Claim 9 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence according to claim 5 comprising modifications introduced by deletion, insertion and/or substitution of at least one nucleotide coding for a protein having the same biological activity as the transcription factor CATFIIIA.

Claim 10 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence according to claim 5 as well as the DNA sequences which have a nucleotide sequence homology of at least 50% with the said DNA sequence.

Claim 11 (previously amended)

A DNA sequence according to claim 5 as well as the DNA sequence which code for a protein with a similar function as the amino acids sequence of which has a homology of at least 50%, with the amino acid sequence coded by the said DNA sequence.

Claim 12 (previously canceled)

Claim 13 (previously amended)

A process for the preparation of the recombinant protein CATFIIIA having the amino acid sequence SEQ ID No: 3 comprising expression of the DNA sequence according to claim 5 in a host, then isolation and purification of said recombinant protein.

Claim 14 (previously amended)

An expression vector containing the DNA sequence according to claim 5.

Claim 15 (previously amended)

A host cell transformed with a vector according to claim 14.

Claim 16 (previously amended)

The process of claim 13 wherein the host cell is DH5 alpha E.coli or XL1-Blue E.coli.

Claim 17 (previously amended)

The process of claim 13 wherein the host cell is Saccharomyces cerevisiae.

Claim 18 (previously amended)

The plasmid deposited at the CNCM under the number I-2072.

Claims 19- 26 (previously cancelled)

Claim 27 (previously amended)

Kit for the diagnosis of fungal infections comprising a DNA sequence as defined in claim 5 or a functional fragment of this sequence.

Claims 28-29 (previously cancelled)

Claim 30 (previously cancelled)

Claim 31 (previously cancelled)